

COCONINO COUNTY PROPANE TANK INSTALLATIONS

Permits are required for propane tank installations when installed under ground or above ground, along with permits for gas piping and appliance installations.

General Requirements

1. Tanks shall be set appropriately from structures and property lines. See 1994 Uniform Fire Code table 8204-1 enclosed.
2. Metallic piping used shall be approved for under ground burial and have a minimum of 12 inch cover. Piping shall be shaded with sand to six inches above and back filled with clean non-abrasive soil. Approved non-metallic pipe shall have a minimum of 18 inches of cover with a #18 tracer wire. Metallic anode-less risers shall be used with plastic piping systems.
3. Pipe fittings and damaged areas of pipe coating shall be protected with double wrap of 10 mill tape.
4. Piping shall have a 10 pound pressure test with gauge for 15 minutes viewed by the Building Inspector. For a two stage regulator system, the medium pressure side shall have a 60 pound pressure test for 30 minutes.
5. Tanks set near vehicle areas shall be protected by 4 inch diameter concrete filled steel posts three feet above grade and spaced four feet on center maximum. The posts shall be set three feet into the ground in a 15 inch diameter concrete footing five feet away from the tank. Alternative post locations may be determined from a site evaluation by the Building Inspector.

Requirements for Tank Burial

1. Tanks shall be listed for underground use or a combination above and below ground use.
2. Tanks shall be buried with the top of the tank at least six inches below ground - No vehicular traffic. Two feet below when subject to vehicular traffic or use a concrete slab (6 inches reinforced).
3. Provide a manhole above grade for connections and valves. When the possibility for water flooding of manhole, the discharge from the regulator vent lines shall be above the highest possible water line. If in vehicular traffic area, protect manhole and tank area from physical damage.
4. Containers shall be protected against corrosion for the soil condition at the site. Any damage to the coating shall be repaired before back-filling.

5. Containers shall be set level on firm earth free from rocks on a six inch clean sand bed. Back fill shall be clean sand or clean earth free of rocks and abrasives. No cinders.
6. An anode for cathodic protection shall be installed.
7. Tanks shall be supported on concrete footing dead man and anchored with minimum 3/16" Stainless steel, or other non-corrosive cable, or nylon straps to the footing to prevent flotation. Ref. 1994 Fire Code, Section 7902.6.7. Dead man Size 12" x 12" x 48" minimum. This footing requirement is for tanks less than 500 gals..
8. Underground tank gas piping system shall be installed as a two stage regular system.

Requirements for Above Ground Tank Enclosures

Tanks with combustible and non-combustible fencing

1. Fencing shall provide a 3 foot access opening and three feet on all sides of the tank for filling and service.
2. Masonry fences shall:
 - a. Be supported on an adequate footing.
 - b. Have adequate vents in the bottom course all sides.
 - c. Be entirely of non-combustible materials.
3. Wood fences:
 - a. Posts shall be redwood, pressure treated wood, or non-combustible.
 - b. Shall provide adequate bottom ventilation all sides.
4. Placement:
 - a. Tanks with masonry or non-combustible fencing may be placed according to the table.
 - b. Tanks with combustible wood fence enclosures, the fencing shall be placed a minimum of ten feet away from structures and property lines when the tank is sized 0 to 500 gallons.
 - c. Weeds, grass, brush, trash and other combustible materials shall be kept at least 10 feet from the tank or the tank enclosures.

If you have any questions please call
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